

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated June 18, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration based on the following remarks.

Claims 1-5 are pending and claim 1 stands rejected. Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 2-5 are allowed. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Yoshidome (U.S. Patent No. 6,522,425, hereinafter “Yoshidome”). The Examiner states that Yoshidome discloses all of the elements of the above mentioned claim 1 primarily disclosed in FIG. 1 of Yoshidome. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 has been canceled rendering any rejection thereto moot.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and allow claims 2-5 to issue.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

Applicants hereby petition for any necessary extension of time required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) or 1.136(b) which may be required for entry and consideration of the present Reply.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicants' attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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